



COPS

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Fall 2002, NO. 19

ON THE BEAT

www.cops.usdoj.gov

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And much more, so just turn the page!

"...it's an honor to be here with so many law enforcement authorities and scholars who dedicate their lives to keeping our communities and the United States of America safe."

– U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft



COPS Director Carl Peed and U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft

U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft took the podium after COPS Director Carl R. Peed to welcome more than 800 attendees at *COPS National Conference: Community Policing Keeps America Safe* on July 15 in Washington D.C. Over the next three days, attendees heard from law enforcement officials, scholars, and field experts about diverse topics including racial profiling, mediation techniques, terrorism preparedness, and intelligence sharing. Attendees participated in roundtables and discussions on the issues that affect law enforcement agencies across the nation.

Though the topics were many, the theme of the conference remained constant: community involvement with law enforcement efforts is essential for the reduction of crime and the fear of crime. The Attorney General introduced the theme of the conference in his opening address when he said **"...the responsibility to protect our community does not reside solely with law enforcement. It rests, as I have said before, in the hands of every American citizen....[it] makes a difference when the citizens join in."**

See pages 4 & 5 for more about the *COPS National Conference: Community Policing Keeps America Safe*.

Director's Notes

Carl Peed, COPS Director

As we pass the first anniversary of the September 11 terror attacks, the men and women who protect and serve our nation's communities have reason to be proud. In the aftermath of the most deadly and destructive attack on American soil in our nation's history, local law enforcement agencies rose to the task of not only keeping Americans safe, but making us feel secure in the face of a deadly enemy that still operates among us.

This edition of *On The Beat* focuses on the ways community policing keeps America's homeland secure, and highlights a few of the successes from *COPS National Conference: Community Policing Keeps America Safe*. An effective strategy for solving problems ranging from school violence to open drug markets to gang activity, community policing now meets the challenge of defending our homeland against the agents of terror. Many of the speakers at *COPS National Conference: Community*

Policing Keeps America Safe believe, as I do, that homeland defense requires the united efforts and cooperation of law enforcement agencies and citizens across the country.

Effective homeland security depends on the involvement of local law enforcement agencies and of every member of every community they serve. The COPS Office supports those agencies and communities with funding to hire law enforcement professionals, grants to acquire and implement new technology, and training in the most innovative community policing techniques as well as traditional law enforcement tactics. *COPS National Conference: Community Policing Keeps America Safe* devoted an entire series of workshops, lectures, and discussions to the subject. Many of the ideas the participants shared and the projects discussed are featured in the following pages.

Community policing works. In the face of the most violent and unpredictable threat ever to violate American soil, local law enforcement is demonstrating again and again that community policing can provide effective solutions to problems. COPS is proud to support you as we continue to meet new challenges. Now more than ever, community policing keeps America safe.



COPS Facts

September 2002, COPS had awarded more than **\$9.4 billion** in total funding to local, state, and tribal agencies since 1994. COPS has awarded:

Over \$6.5 billion to law enforcement agencies under hiring grants.

\$672 million under the COPS in Schools program to fund almost **6,000 School Resource Officers**.

\$137 million nationwide for programs to prevent the use and production of methamphetamine.

\$35.2 million for School-Based and Value-Based Partnerships.

\$93 million for training through the COPS national network of Regional Community Policing Institutes.

Over \$1 billion in total funding for technology.

***Assessing Responses to Problems:
An Introductory Guide for Police
Problem-Solvers***

Now Available!

COPS invites you to take a look at its newest publication. *Assessing Responses to Problems* focuses on:

- J Designing effective responses to problems,
- J Implementing the response plan,
- J Evaluating the plan as executed.

Assessing Responses to Problems helps law enforcement officials answer two main questions:

1. Did the problem decline?
2. If so, did the response cause the decline?

Assessing Responses to Problems is currently available at www.cops.usdoj.gov, and through the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 1.800.421.6770. Order your copy today.

Conference Update!

The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services is proud to co-sponsor the National Native American Law Enforcement Association's (NNALEA) 2002 Annual Meeting and Tribal Homeland Security Summit. NNALEA and COPS have worked together for the past three years to bring community policing to tribal law enforcement agencies, and look forward to continuing that relationship in the future. The NNALEA Summit will bring the leaders of Native American tribes together with representatives from local, state, and federal government as well as private industry to discuss collaborative responses to homeland security in Native American communities. COPS funds will help NNALEA cover the cost of hosting this Summit.

Over the course of the two-day Summit in Reno, Nevada, participants will outline threats and vulnerabilities, identify the resources required to meet those threats, and identify which of those resources are available and which are needed. Participants will then discuss and identify mechanisms for cooperation and outline possible next steps in the collaborative response to terror.

Partnering for Prevention in Phoenix

Community policing depends on community involvement, and one of the best ways to engage a community is to invite its members to participate in law enforcement. The focus on prevention in community policing encourages active community involvement. Citizen participation can help law enforcement professionals with general surveillance and observation of crime and disorder issues. The City of Phoenix developed the Phoenix Neighborhood Patrol (PNP) program to facilitate just such collaborative partnerships.

The PNP empowers neighborhood residents to be the eyes and ears of the Phoenix Police Department. PNP participants receive eight hours of training in such subjects as patrol procedures, observation skills, the 911 system, reporting techniques, confrontation avoidance, and safety practices. They are then offered the chance to spend a ten-hour shift riding with a patrol officer. PNP participants are trained to stay in close communication with the Phoenix Police Department via cell phones and scanners, avoid any potentially dangerous situations, and cooperate with any sworn officers present in whatever ways they may be directed.

After successfully completing the required training, each PNP member receives an identification card and an official PNP shirt, marked with the PNP logo. PNP members are thus easily identifiable in their community.

In keeping with the proven strategies of community policing, PNP members are also assigned to patrol their own neighborhoods. This ensures a familiarity with their "beats," making them more likely to spot the subtle changes that can indicate impending trouble. Sergeant Lawrence Hein with the Phoenix Police Department explains, "People know their neighborhoods, and they recognize suspicious behavior.

Then they tell us about what they have seen, so the police can respond." As local law enforcement expands its role in securing our homeland, that kind of intricate knowledge of a community is invaluable.

The Phoenix Police Department has trained over 1500 citizens to participate in the PNP since its inception in 1994. With the success of the PNP, the Phoenix Police Department has also trained special PNP teams to patrol schools and shopping areas in addition to their own neighborhoods. Other PNP teams were specially trained to help find missing persons ranging from runaway children to lost Alzheimer's patients. The PNP takes a considerable load off of the Phoenix Police Department.

With the responsibilities of Phoenix's sworn forces constantly increasing, the PNP helps them stay in touch with their communities and maintain an "in-the-weeds" view of potential problems. And the PNP is only one aspect of Phoenix's outreach to citizens. The Phoenix Police Department also operates a Citizen's Police Academy and employs citizen representatives on its Use of Force and Disciplinary Review Boards. The Department sponsors periodic day-long meetings at the Academy for community members to learn more about the Department and ask questions.

On a national level, the Department of Justice, USA Freedom Corps, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police have recently announced the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program, which encourages citizens to support local law enforcement agencies through volunteerism. If you're interested in learning more about this or how you can get involved go to: www.policevolunteers.org.



NATIONAL CONFERENCE: COPS★

Law enforcement officials from coast to coast presented their viewpoints on community policing, fielding questions from the audience. Workshops dealt with issues on Police Ethics and Integrity, Promising Practices, Technology, and the Future of Community Policing. Sergeant George McClaskey of the Baltimore Police Department spoke on the topic of Biological Terrorism, Preparedness and Response.



COPS staff mingled with conference attendees at the Resource Expo Tuesday night, sharing their views on community policing. COPS staff moderated and attended many of the workshops, discovering innovative techniques implemented by law enforcement agencies, and gaining ideas for ways to better serve the law enforcement community.



Presenters from across the nation shared their community policing success stories with an animated audience. Topics included racial profiling, ethics and integrity, and terrorism preparedness.



From left to right: Chief of Police Agustin Dovalina III, Laredo, Texas; Mayor Elizabeth G. Flores, Laredo, Texas; Mayor Martin O'Malley, Baltimore, Maryland; Police Commissioner Ed Norris, Baltimore, Maryland.

During the opening plenary session, the mayors and chiefs discussed their professional relationships and jobs in the post-9/11 world. The participants concluded that a successful partnership is all about trust. Chief Dovalina summed up the conversation when he said, "...we consider ourselves a team and we act as a team."

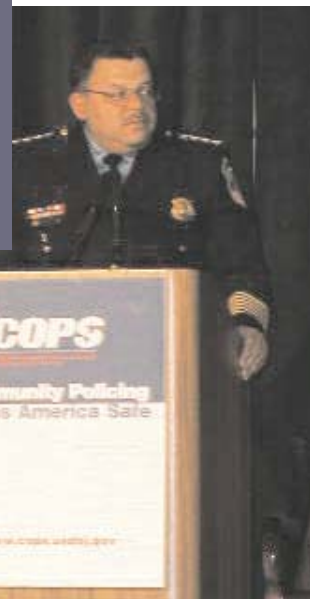
Community Policing Keeps America Safe

July 15 - 17, 2002

Attendees at the *COPS National Conference: Community Policing Keeps America Safe* listened during opening remarks. Attorney General John Ashcroft addressed the crowd, honoring the commitment of law enforcement professionals across the country to making America safer, and recognizing the challenges they face every day. Attorney General Ashcroft spoke of the continuing need for community policing and its role in crime prevention.



Charles H. Ramsey, Chief of Washington, DC's Metropolitan Police Department, welcomed the audience at the opening of the conference, with remarks full of both hope and challenge. Chief Ramsey expressed hope in the fact that ***"Community policing has served us well...and is the right model to carry us into the future."*** He offered his challenge clearly, stating, "Perhaps the biggest challenge that we face, and something this conference will explore, is how to creatively maximize the community policing resources at our disposal." Chief Ramsey's message that local law enforcement can and must play a role in homeland defense, using new technology to open lines of communication and build partnerships.



Members of the "Brownsville Youth for Peace," a student-initiated violence prevention program, performed a powerful dramatic interpretation of the pain and loss associated with youth violence during a workshop series on Problem-Solving. Portraying a funeral procession, students showed the deep impact of youth violence on the community. The students participate in the New York City Board of Education's School-Based Partnership Program. The New York City Board of Education has received COPS funding under the School-Based Partnership grant program.

COMMUNITY POLICING: NOW MORE THAN EVER

"Local law enforcement can play a key and very crucial role in maintaining the defense of our homeland."

Chief Charles Ramsey
Washington, DC

In the wake of September 11, The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services published *Local Law Enforcement Responds to Terrorism: Lessons in Prevention and Preparedness*. The publication details potential responses to terrorism through:

- Improving data collection and processing,
- Leveraging technology
- Increasing inter-agency communication, and
- Responding to citizen fear.

Please contact the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 1.800.421.6770 to order your copy today. *Local Law Enforcement Responds to Terrorism* is also available at www.cops.usdoj.gov

Since September 11, federal agencies have increased terrorism prevention and response efforts, but much of the responsibility for dealing with these threats and the fear they create rests at the local level. Community policing can help law enforcement prepare for and prevent terrorist acts and respond to the fear such threats create by encouraging organizational change within law enforcement agencies, supporting problem-solving efforts, and seeking external partnerships.

While many U.S. law enforcement agencies have adopted community policing strategies in recent years, traumatic events like the 9/11 attacks can cause organizations to fall back on more traditional methods of doing business. Some police departments may abandon community policing for seemingly more immediate security concerns.

Community policing, however, should play a central role in addressing these issues.

The community policing philosophy emphasizes organizational changes such as delegating decision-making power to line-level officers and assigning them to fixed geographic areas. This can be valuable in a crisis. When there is no time for decisions to move up the chain of command, officers accustomed to making decisions may be better prepared to respond quickly and in innovative ways. Officers assigned to specific geographic areas are also better able to build relationships with residents. Such officers may thus be more attuned to community fears and able to respond more effectively to them.

Community policing also helps to build trust between the community and law enforcement, which in a crisis can help law enforcement

deal more effectively with community concerns. This trust also helps law enforcement to develop knowledge of community and resident activity and can provide vital intelligence relating to potential terrorist actions.

The problem-solving model is also well-suited to the prevention of terrorism. Departments can use a wide variety of data sources to proactively develop detailed risk management and crisis response plans. It can be determined which sites have the greatest potential to be terrorist targets, levels of vulnerability can be analyzed, and responses can be planned, implemented, and continually reevaluated.

As law enforcement is only one of many entities that respond to community problems, partnering with other agencies and community groups is central to community policing. Community policing encourages law enforcement officials to develop partnerships with civic and community groups to help address community needs and to involve the public in problem-solving efforts.

The threat of terrorism provides a unique opportunity to create these partnerships. Partnerships developed with other public service agencies and with the community aimed at intelligence sharing and developing coordinated response plans are vital to effectively dealing with terrorism.

Reducing fear of crime has always been an integral part of community policing. This applies especially to terrorism, where the primary goal is to create fear. This fear can negatively impact quality of life far beyond areas directly affected by any specific event. Unchecked fear of terrorism can also manifest itself in hate crimes. Law enforcement must be prepared to respond to and prevent such crimes.

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While the fear of terrorism may be different from the fear of other types of crime, many of the same responses still apply. For example, law enforcement can conduct surveys to determine the extent and nature of citizen fear and tailor their responses accordingly. Awareness campaigns can inform citizens about local police and government activities to prevent and prepare for possible terrorist events and crisis response plans can be made public. Citizens can be informed about what they can do to prepare for possible terrorist events, such as preparing emergency survival kits for their homes, reviewing evacuation routes, and learning to identify suspicious activity. Encouraging citizens to partner with law enforcement and other community groups in prevention and preparedness efforts may significantly increase citizens' feelings of efficacy and security.

The burden placed on local law enforcement is great. Since 9/11, in addition to traditional responsibilities, America's law enforcement agencies have provided a visible security presence at potential terrorist targets, partnered with federal intelligence agencies, responded to an increasing number of hate crimes, and investigated a large number of terrorism related leads. Community policing can be an effective strategy for conducting and coordinating these and other terrorism prevention and response efforts.

Documenting Police Innovations

Over the past eight years the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) has awarded more than 31,000 grants to over 12,000 state and local law enforcement agencies. In an effort to document and highlight accomplishments achieved as a result of this funding, COPS funded the Institute for Law and Justice (ILJ) to seek recommendations of law enforcement agencies to be included in a new project entitled **Reports from the Field: Community Policing Innovations**.

If your agency has received COPS funding for any of the programs listed below and would like to be included in this project, please contact: Stacy Osnick Milligan, Institute for Law and Justice, by phone: 703.684.5300; or e-mail: stacy@ilj.org

- J Hiring Grants (AHEAD, FAST, PHASE 1, and UHP)
- J Making Officer Redeployment Effective (MORE)
- J Cops in Schools (CIS)
- J School-Based Partnerships
- J Troops to COPS



Reports From The Field

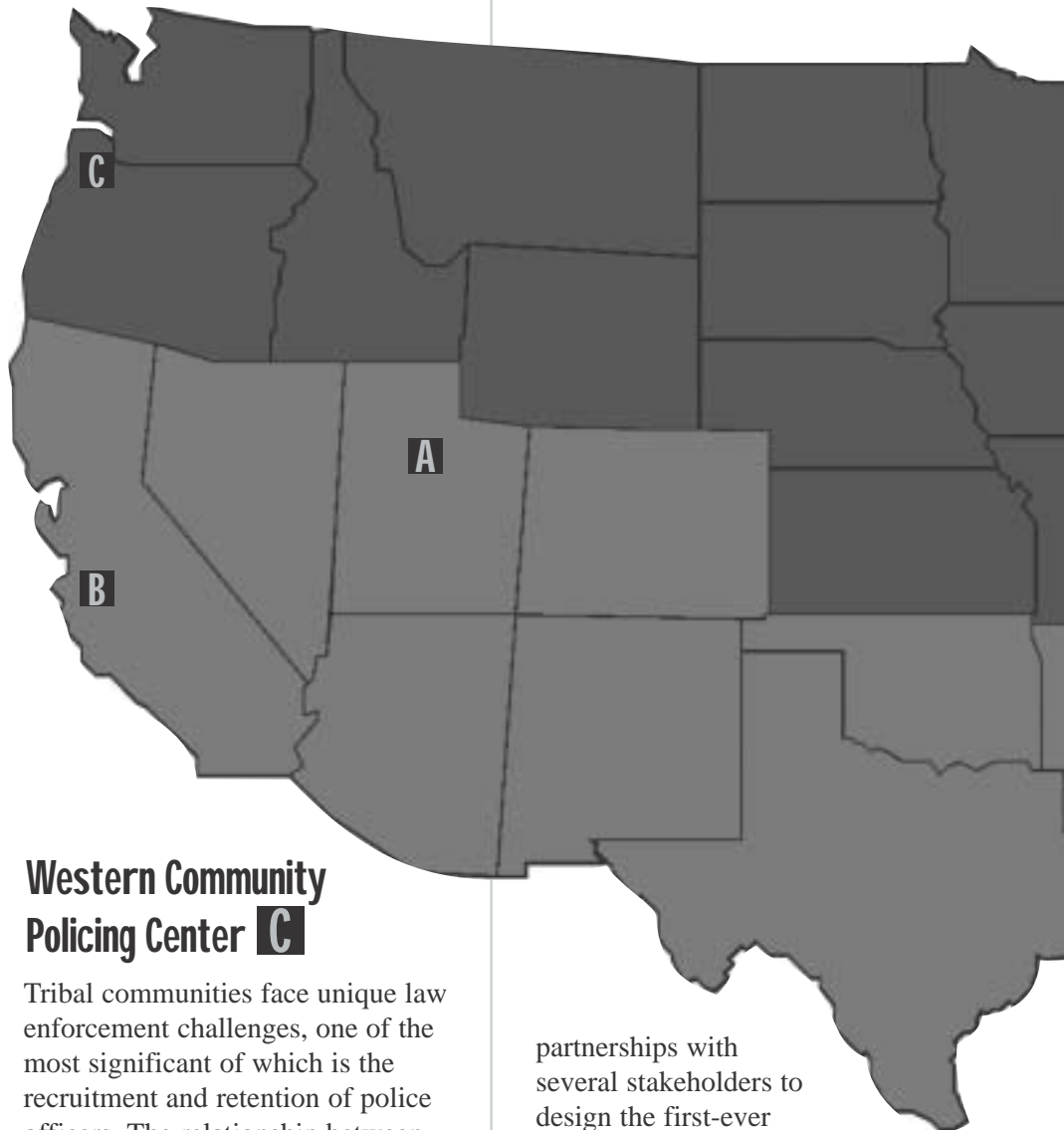
Salt Lake City, UT **A**

With a COPS Meth grant, Salt Lake City law enforcement officials developed a multi-agency collaboration involving 30 government agencies working together to prevent the use and production of methamphetamine. A major success of the Salt Lake City meth initiative is the Drug Endangered Children program (DEC). The DEC addressed the growing number of children exposed to methamphetamine by combining the resources of law enforcement, judicial, and social services agencies. The DEC succeeded in amending Utah's child endangerment statutes to better protect drug-exposed children.

Redlands, CA **B**

In Redlands, California, the police department used its COPS Value-Based Initiative (VBI) grant to involve the faith community in existing youth development programs. In addition, the Redlands VBI includes the COPS and Clergy Network, which engages the faith community to combat neighborhood crime by working with the Redlands Drug Court, the Redlands Youth Accountability Board, and offender reentry programs.

COPS at Work

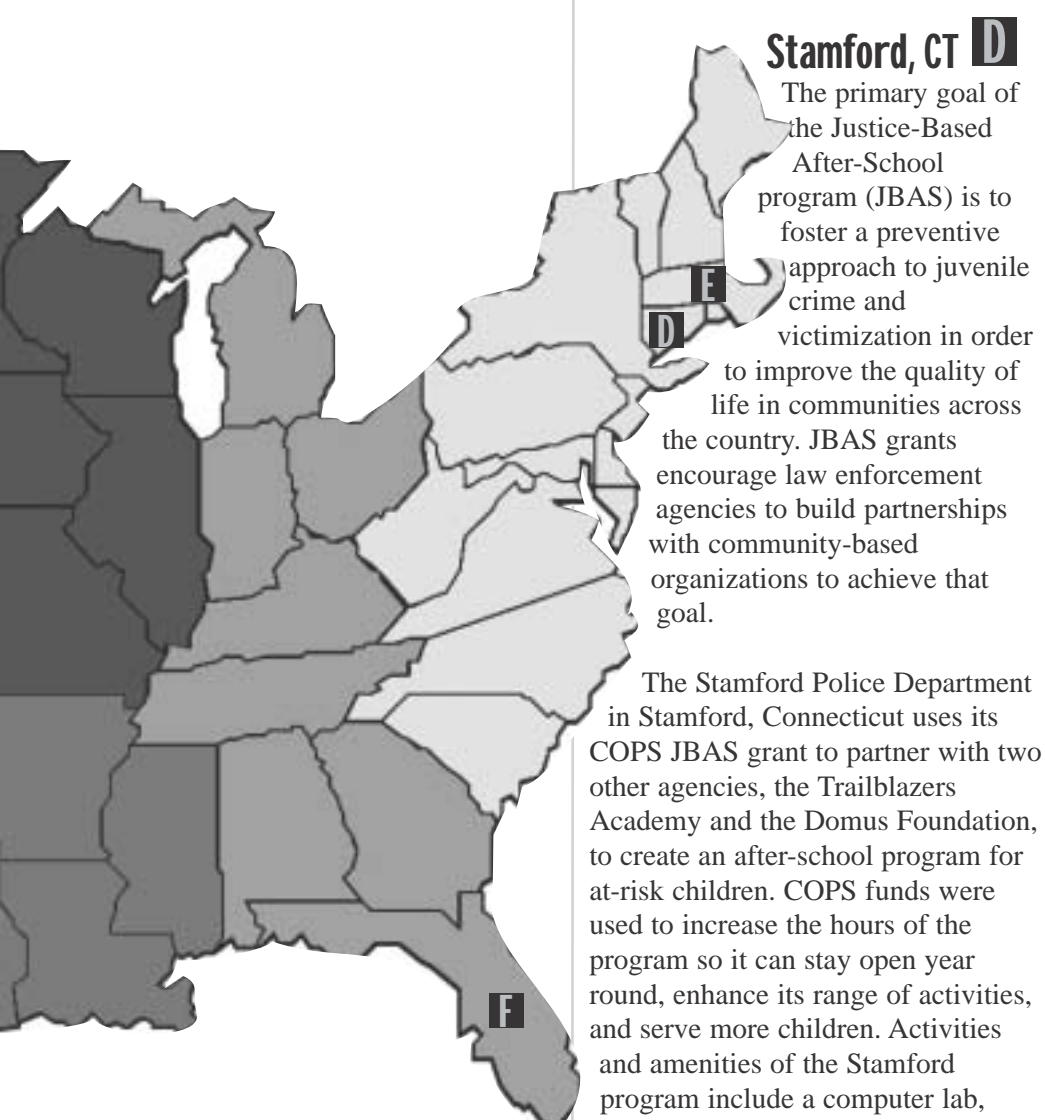


Western Community Policing Center **C**

Tribal communities face unique law enforcement challenges, one of the most significant of which is the recruitment and retention of police officers. The relationship between police and tribal youth is also of paramount importance. In response to this need, the Western Community Policing Center, funded through COPS Tribal Resources Grant Program grant, developed

partnerships with several stakeholders to design the first-ever National Indian Youth Academy. This two-week academy brings together Indian youth and tribal police officers to experience firsthand the type of training police officers receive, including community policing. They build

Work in America



Stamford, CT **D**

The primary goal of the Justice-Based After-School program (JBAS) is to foster a preventive approach to juvenile crime and victimization in order to improve the quality of life in communities across the country. JBAS grants encourage law enforcement agencies to build partnerships with community-based organizations to achieve that goal.

The Stamford Police Department in Stamford, Connecticut uses its COPS JBAS grant to partner with two other agencies, the Trailblazers Academy and the Domus Foundation, to create an after-school program for at-risk children. COPS funds were used to increase the hours of the program so it can stay open year round, enhance its range of activities, and serve more children. Activities and amenities of the Stamford program include a computer lab, homework hour, specialized tutoring, sports, community volunteer activities, nutrition services, arts and crafts, and lectures on life skills. The presence of law enforcement officials serves a dual purpose: creating a safe environment for youth, and providing role models for youth.

New Bedford, MA **E**

SROs were listening as students came forward with information on a plan to detonate a bomb inside their high school. According to the plan, the students intended to kill themselves before the police could apprehend them. SROs and other local law enforcement used their eyes and ears in a month-long, school-wide investigation and charged three students with plotting the New Bedford rampage. Police were able to arrest suspects and prevent a deadly attack because students and SRO's worked together.

Broward County, FL **F**

MORE grants provide financial assistance to purchase needed technology or equipment and to hire civilian administrative personnel. One sheriff's deputy in Florida targeted this new technology on car thefts in Broward County. Deputy Eduardo Ponce identified parts of Broward County's central district as havens for stolen vehicles. With his newly installed COPS-funded Mobile Data Terminal, Deputy Ponce began tracking and recovering stolen vehicles. His hard work and innovative use of this time-saving technology resulted in 27 arrests and the recovery of 32 stolen cars.

relationships, remove communication barriers, and learn the importance of staying in school and staying out of trouble to pursue a career in law enforcement.

Smarter Intelligence: Sharing for Success

The events of September 11 showed the world how America's first responders meet new challenges. When terrorists committed an unexpected act of war, local law enforcement was first to the front lines. Their unflinching heroism during that day and those that followed inspired pride and respect for law enforcement professionals throughout the country and the world.

September 11 provided an opportunity to reevaluate some of the processes that guide America's law enforcement through times of crisis. Our war on terror has shown us many ways in which community policing can sharpen our response to those who seek to destroy our way of life. One area in which we can make significant improvements is in the area of information sharing. The COPS Office funded a project by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) to determine ways in which we might improve information sharing processes between federal, state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies.

The COPS-funded Criminal Justice Intelligence Summit hosted by the IACP in March of 2002 dedicated its time to developing a plan that would specifically complement the intelligence sharing aspects of the Bush Administration's proposed Department of Homeland Security. American law enforcement professionals worked with each other and representatives from as far away as the United Kingdom to forge a plan that would help realize the future of intelligence sharing. The results of those efforts are collected in a report entitled *Criminal Intelligence Sharing: A National Plan for Intelligence-Led Policing at the Local, State, and Federal Levels*.

The report recommends the creation of a Criminal Intelligence Coordinating Council (CICC) to help the proposed Department of Homeland Security effectively share criminal intelligence. The plan also examines ways to identify and overcome specific legal obstacles to effective intelligence sharing. According to attendees, proposed solutions include a variety of collaborative efforts to reevaluate current clearance classifications and categories in light of the evolving needs of local law enforcement and civil rights concerns.

The cornerstone of the plan, however, is the CICC, which would oversee the development and implementation of a National Intelligence Plan. It would be made up of tribal, local, state, and federal law enforcement professionals detailed from their respective agencies, and chaired by a representative of local law enforcement. The CICC would be charged with creating universal standards, procedures, and policies for the collection, analysis, sharing, and destruction of intelligence data. The CICC would also determine how the various participating agencies would interact.

Another function of the CICC would be to develop a marketing strategy designed to increase participation in and public awareness and approval of the new system. This process would highlight the CICC's focus on civil rights and privacy issues, which remain important concerns during our war on terror.

In addition to these roles, the CICC would also be charged with developing a plan to fund the new National Intelligence Plan. It would work with state, local, and tribal agencies to affect legislation that supports the effective and efficient sharing of intelligence. The CICC would also work with those agencies to develop new curricula and training materials in support of intelligence-led policing.

Criminal Intelligence Sharing: A National Plan for Intelligence-Led Policing at the Local, State, and Federal Levels includes organizational considerations for the CICC, as well as specific next steps to take in implementing the plan and achieving its goals. The Plan is available through the IACP, please contact Carmen Barnes at 703.836.6767 x392.

Our war on terror has shown us many ways in which community policing can sharpen our response to those who seek to destroy our way of life.



Law Enforcement Technology: How to Plan, Purchase and Manage Technology (Successfully!)



Law Enforcement Technology is the newest publication from the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.

It focuses on how successful technology implementation enhances community policing. The guide demonstrates how technology builds relationships with the community. This publication is available on the COPS website at www.cops.usdoj.gov or through the U.S. Department of Justice Response Center at 800.421.6770.



COPS
www.cops.usdoj.gov

Law Enforcement Information Technology: Planning, Purchasing, and Managing Your Technology Initiative

COPS is sponsoring an upcoming conference in your area focused on helping MORE grantees achieve the technology goals outlined in their grant applications. These conferences are designed to provide specific training and instruction for those involved in managing, overseeing, and making decisions about all facets of technology planning, purchase, and implementation. The conferences are sponsored by Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and provided by SEARCH, The National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics. The first conference is coming to Cincinnati, Ohio on September 24 – 26. COPS will also sponsor conferences in Atlanta, Georgia; San Diego, California; and San Antonio, Texas. Please visit the website www.search.org/conferences/2002COPS for more information or to register online now! These conferences are free to attend – so why wait?

Highlights of the 2002 Law Enforcement Information Technology Include:

- Best practices in planning, procurement, contract negotiations, and implementation of new information systems.
- Explore Computer-Aided Dispatch, Records Management, Mobile Data and Automated Field Reporting, and Crime Analysis Systems in detail.
- Learn how to troubleshoot problems in existing systems and implementation processes.
- Take advantage of sessions on grant compliance and redeployment issues.
- Advance copies of the **Law Enforcement Information Technology Guide**.
- Conference workbook with tools such as RFP (request for proposal) checklists, vendor evaluation tips, and much more.
- Network with other agencies implementing similar technologies and facing similar challenges.
- Attend keynote luncheons sessions featuring *Technology and Terrorism: Strategies for Prevention and Preparedness* and *Establishing Successful Vendor Relationships*.

A CLEAR Solution

"When Mayor Daley and the Superintendent challenged this Department to take CAPS [Chicago's Alternative Policing Strategy] to the next level, using technology to fight crime was an obvious direction to go," said Deputy Superintendent Barbara McDonald of the Chicago Police Department (CPD) Bureau of Administrative Services. "CLEAR (Citizen Law Enforcement Analysis and Reporting) is an outgrowth of that challenge." McDonald described how the CPD used COPS funds to design and deploy this revolutionary information technology initiative at *COPS National Conference: Community Policing Keeps America Safe*.

CLEAR is changing how law enforcement agencies can harness the power of technology to multiply their analysis capabilities, share information with other agencies, and prevent crime. CLEAR links information about crime and a wide range of other subjects from many diverse sources, empowering the Chicago Police Department to transform its methods to meet the challenges of policing in the 21st century. Problems that once took weeks or months to solve will take hours or days once CLEAR is fully implemented. "When it comes down to how departments can police smarter, CLEAR will not break the mold. That's because CLEAR is the mold," said Chicago Police Superintendent Terry G. Hillard. "It is the template that other departments will use to gather and analyze information. Better information will mean better results, especially where crime-fighting is concerned."

CLEAR now offers CPD officers full access to a data warehouse. This includes information on more than four million arrestees with more than 30 data points, including mug shots and criminal history records, at the simple click of a mouse. The warehouse also contains information about crime incidents catalogued by parameters including crime type, address, and time of day. This information often enables officers to identify crime patterns much earlier in

their evolution. Identifying and addressing a problem early in its development can not only stop crimes faster, it can often prevent crimes from happening in the first place. The CLEAR database processes more than 7,000 queries per day.

COPS National Conference: Community Policing Keeps America Safe focused on how community involvement in law enforcement efforts enables the prevention of crime. Another hot topic at the conference was the need to share information between many law enforcement agencies. Chicago's CLEAR program is designed with precedent-setting capabilities to both involve the community and share information.

Currently only one-third complete, CLEAR will ultimately include a community component, where residents will have access to an unprecedented amount of information, giving them more tools to work effectively with the police and other city departments. CLEAR also expands regional crime-fighting effectiveness by sharing data with 132 suburban police agencies. This information sharing raises crime prevention to a regional level, fully utilizing the resources of the larger community.

It is no secret that technology is one of the most important tools available to law enforcement today. Systems like CLEAR that are designed to meet the needs of law enforcement professionals in a holistic sense rather than to provide technical solutions to specific problems, are monumental undertakings, but as Chicago shows us, they may well be an integral part of the future of community policing.

"The cornerstone of effective crime prevention is our ability to share information with our community and our law enforcement partners."

Terry G. Hillard
Superintendent of Police,
Chicago, Illinois

A Light, But Not at the End of the Tunnel: Giving Youth an Alternative to Violence

"Community policing cannot succeed if it is left to the police alone," says Reverend Terna Jordan. "Every member of the community must come together and work as a whole to make a community safe. In many American communities, the church is positioned to be an ideal partner for community policing efforts." Reverend Jordan shared these thoughts at *COPS National Conference: Community Policing Keeps America Safe*, but he practices what he preaches in his hometown of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Fort Wayne is one of six sites around the country selected to participate in a COPS pilot program called Value-Based Initiatives (VBIs). VBIs are designed to involve faith-based groups and support systems in the efforts to keep communities safe. Fort Wayne's VBI is entitled "Alternatives to Youth Violence," and is currently a semifinalist for the International Association of Chiefs of Police's (IACP) 2002 Webber Seavey Award. The Webber Seavey Award is named for the IACP's first president, and recognizes organizations for significantly advancing community policing in their jurisdictions.

Alternatives to Youth Violence is a partnership between three primary organizations: the Fort Wayne Police Department, the Fort Wayne Ministerial Alliance, and Stop the Madness, Inc., whose charismatic founder, Reverend Terna Jordan, serves as the VBI's Program Director. Stop the Madness has delivered cultural, spiritual, and recreational support to Fort Wayne's at-risk youth since its inception in 1992. Reverend Jordan has dedicated much of his career to fighting youth violence and he spoke on the subject at *COPS National Conference: Community Policing Keeps America Safe*.

Reverend Jordan's words at the conference outlined his commitment to the issues the VBI was built to address: to connect people in need with existing services and resources in their communities. He explained that faith-based organizations already have deep roots in many at-risk areas, and are therefore ideal partners for law enforcement agencies who want to reach out to their communities.

Much of the VBI grant went to fund and staff Fort Wayne's Community Training Center, which is dedicated to providing alternatives to youth violence. Its programs include parenting skills, conflict mediation training, and leadership skills training. The COPS VBI grant also covers travel to seminars, outside consulting services, and other costs of building the program.

Alternatives to Youth Violence is not the only way law enforcement is working with the faith-based organizations to improve Fort Wayne's quality of life. The Fort Wayne Ministerial Police Academy is another component of the VBI, and has graduated over 150 ministers and community members. Chief Rusty York of the Fort Wayne Police Department told COPS that the Academy has helped build a strong connection between his department and an area within his jurisdiction occupied primarily by minorities. In the past, residents of that area often felt underserved by the department. Graduates of the Ministerial Police Academy now function as liaisons between their congregations and the police department, keeping channels of communication open and ensuring that community members understand how and why officers do what they do.

The COPS Office would like to congratulate Fort Wayne for being named a semifinalist in the 2002 Webber Seavey Awards, and for the community policing innovations that earned it this honor. More information on the Webber Seavey Awards can be found on the International Association of Chiefs of Police's website at <http://www.theiacp.org/>.

If you have any questions regarding Fort Wayne's community policing programs, please contact Chief Rusty York at russell.york@ci.ft-wayne.in.us, 260.427.1230.

"We're not necessarily going to agree on everything, but at least in Fort Wayne, we can sit down and talk about it. That trust level is important. To make community policing work, you have to share the power."

**Chief Rusty York
Fort Wayne
Police Department**

Calendar * COPS hosted event

October 2-5, 2002	League of California Cities Annual Conference, Long Beach, CA	*	November 5-7, 2002	COPS Law Enforcement Information Technology Conference San Diego, CA
October 3-5, 2002	National Sheriffs' Association Committee of State Presidents and Executive Directors Mackinac Island, MI		November 17-21, 2002	Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs, Vancouver, WA
October 5-9, 2002	International Association of Chiefs of Police 109th Annual Conference Minneapolis, MN	*	November 19-21, 2002	COPS Law Enforcement Information Technology Conference, San Antonio, TX
October 20-24, 2002	Maryland Association of Chiefs of Police Annual Conference Ocean City, MD		December 3-7, 2002	National League of Cities Congress of Cities, Salt Lake City, UT
* October 22-24, 2002	COPS Law Enforcement Information Technology Conference Atlanta, GA		December 5-8, 2002	Council of State Governments Annual Meeting, Richmond, VA
* October 22-24, 200	National Native American Law Enforcement Association Conference Reno, NV		December 8-11, 2002	National Association of Triads 2002 National Triad Conference, Orlando, FL
			December 8-11, 2002	The Sixth Annual International Crime Mapping Conference, Denver, CO

ON THE BEAT
FALL 2002, No. 19

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